

HELP WAS URGENTLY NEEDED

Darky Evidently Had Troubles of His Own With That "Possum" His Partner Shook Down.

Two negroes, Salvation Jones and King Agrippa Johnson, living near the Dismal swamp went 'possum hunting one dark night. A warm trail was struck, and the dogs soon "treaded."

Instead of an opossum, the dogs had treed a wildcat. As Salvation made his way to the topmost branches the animal retreated still farther out on the overhanging limbs, and emitted an angry snarl.

"Hub? How's dat?" exclaimed Salvation. "Never heard no 'Possum talk lak dat befo'!"

"Go on, Salvation. Yo' ain't hearn nothin' but de dogs. Shake him loose! Ise waitin'!" urged King Agrippa.

Climbing a little farther out, Salvation gave the limb a mighty shake and dislodged the wildcat. Suddenly a chorus of yells, howls, screeches and cuss words broke loose from below.

"Hey, dar, King Agrippa!" anxiously called down Salvation. "Yo' want me ter come down an' help yo' hol' him?"

"Naw, sub," yelled Agrippa. "Ah wants yo' tuh come down an' help me ter tu' him aloose!"—Judge.

STRANGE MONSTER IN AFRICA

English Scientist Tells of Creature Which He Thinks May Have Been Giant Python.

F. C. Cornell, Fellow of the Royal Geographical society, who recently returned to England after spending twenty years in practically unknown parts of South Africa, is author of a story about an unknown monster that had been seen near the Great falls of the Orange river. It has a huge head and a neck ten feet long like a bending tree. It seizes the native cattle and drags them under water. The natives call it "Kynian," or the Great Thing.

Last Feeling of Satisfaction.

Postmaster Chance told the Kiwanis club last week how he took an examination to get his first promotion in government service.

He entered as a messenger. One day he happened to look into a room and saw about thirty people bending over tables.

"What are they doing?" he asked. "They are taking an examination for promotion," he was told. "Don't you want to try?"

If they were trying to play a joke on M. O. Chance of Illinois he called their bluff.

He went in, took the examination and later was told that he was the only one promoted.

"I tell you, I felt pretty proud," declared Postmaster Chance, recalling the time, "until they told me that the others had taken the examination for promotion to \$1,000 and that I had been the only one to take the examination for promotion to \$1,000."—Washington Star.

WEAK, NERVOUS, ALL RUN-DOWN

Missouri Lady Suffered Until She Tried Cardui.—Says "Result Was Surprising."—Got Along Fine, Became Normal and Healthy.

Springfield Mo.—"My back was so weak I could hardly stand up, and I would have bearing-down pains and was not well at any time," says Mrs. D. V. Williams, wife of a well-known farmer on Route 6, this place. "I kept getting headaches and having to go to bed," continues Mrs. Williams describing the troubles from which she obtained relief through the use of Cardui.

"I saw after taking some Cardui... that I was improving. The result was surprising. I felt like a different person. "Later I suffered from weakness and weak back, and felt all run-down. I did not rest well at night, I was so nervous and cross. My husband said he would get me some Cardui, which he did. It strengthened me... My doctor said I got along fine. I was in good healthy condition. I cannot say too much for it."

Thousands of women have suffered as Mrs. Williams describes, until they found relief from the use of Cardui. Since it has helped so many, you should not hesitate to try Cardui if troubled with womanly ailments. For sale everywhere.

GOOD IDEA FOR ANY TOWN

Example Set by Newark Public Library Might Well be Copied by Other Communities.

Were you ever on the top of Pike's peak? It is about 14,500 feet up in the air, and some people, in spite of motors and cog railways, find the ascent difficult. The plateau on which the Tibetans live—it is ten times as big as England—is all of it as high or higher than Pike's peak, and the mountains around slope up to nearly 25,000 feet.

It is still a mysterious land, and until a few years ago almost an unknown one. The Newark (N. J.) public library has just held an exhibit of all sort of things Tibetan—things brought together through the happy conjunction of a missionary of unusual experiences and the museum staff—and this exhibit is supplemented with pamphlets and pictures tending to make it more understandable and interesting. This is a typical example of the work of the Newark library under its unusual chief, John Cotton Dana, says Leslie's.

Director Dana believes that a library should "sell" itself to business men and not restrict its activities to young lady readers of fiction, children and unoccupied old gentlemen. It should be a real constructive force in the everyday life of the community, and not a mere collection of books and a lounging place. The Newark library is pretty well known among librarians about the country, but the sort of work it does is not imitated as generally as it might well be.

ATTRACTED BY STRONG LIGHT

Myriads of Fish Helpless When Diving Bell Descended into the Depths of the Sea.

At Dover, England, there has been constructed a series of immense breakwaters in order to increase the size of the harbor. In the work a big diving bell was employed. When this machine was descending on one occasion the men seated around its sides saw in the glare of the electric light a strange sight.

The water beneath them suddenly became alive with thousands of silvery fish, which darted hither and thither in their efforts to escape the unexpected captivity. Some succeeded in diving under the edges of the bell, but as it descended nearer and nearer the bottom, the few inches of water remaining became thick with the fish.

When the bell rested on the bed of the sea the men captured nearly a thousand of the sprats. The fish were probably attracted by the electric light that is used in such a bell.

"Shoes at a Wedding."

The custom of throwing one or more old shoes after the bride or groom either when they go to church to be married or when they start on their wedding journey is so old the memory of man stretches not back to its beginning. Some think it represents an assault and is a lingering trace of the custom among savage nations of carrying away the bride, by violence; others think that it is a relic of the ancient law of exchange or purchase, and that it formerly implied the surrender by the parents of all dominion or authority over their daughter. It has reference to a Jewish custom mentioned in the Bible. Thus in Deuteronomy we read that when the brother of a dead man refused to marry his widow she asserted her independence of him by "loosing his shoe." It was also the custom of the middle ages to place the husband's shoe on the head of the nuptial couch in token of his domination.

Best Radiator Paint.

Large radiators in rooms of the home do not present a very attractive appearance unless they are properly decorated. For this purpose a paint should be used which will harmonize with the wall colorings, and one of the best paints obtainable for this purpose is the ordinary sanitary, flat wall paint that is used upon walls. It has been found that these paints dry with a flat surface having a high heat transmission factor. For heating efficiency as well as for decoration, these paints are therefore to be recommended.

Support of Royalty.

At the installation ceremony of King Feisal of Iraq nothing had been left undone in producing the atmosphere necessary for such an occasion in the country of the Caliphs of Baghdad. The throne—or rather the chair of state—was a masterpiece in scarlet rep, tinsel and gilt. After the ceremony, which, it will be remembered, was an open-air affair, the ritual required that the throne should be removed. A stalwart Ethiopian raised it above his head and bore it away past the assembled multitude. The frame beneath the seat was simple, and across the boarding was the legend in stencils of a firm that exports Scotch whisky. It shall be nameless, because the most up-to-date advertisement manager could never have hoped for such a display. It was worth a king's ransom and yet it was free and uncollected.—Manchester Guardian.

TOLD OF KITCHENER'S DEATH?

Interesting Story That Has Recently Appeared in Book Published by English Author.

Lady Angela Forbes in her book, "Memories and Base Details," says that Lord Kitchener was interested in spiritualism, and that he was undoubtedly not only interested, but a believer in it.

"Count Hamon, better known as Cheiro, told me a story which to the incredulous may only appear as coincidence, but cannot fail to be interesting.

"Count Hamon was a friend of Kitchener's, and in reading his horoscope had, apparently, always told him that his death would be a sudden one, but that he need not anticipate danger in the field of battle. Just before Lord K. went abroad, Count H. went to the war office, and K. showed him a little blue vase, which he had once given him as a mascot, and told him that he always kept it on the table. He asked Count H. if there was anything he could do for him before he left the country. The count replied in the negative, but K. told him there was one thing he would do—if anything happened to him he would give him a sign. At the very hour the Hampshire went down, Count Hamon was in the music-room of his house in the country, at one end of which was a large hatchment, securely nailed to the wall. For no reason at all it fell with a crash, and might have been cleft in two by an ax. Count Hamon guessed instantly that something had happened to Lord Kitchener, and that this must be the promised sign."

BUT HE GOT DATES MIXED

And So a Wily, Unscrupulous Russian Bachelor Was Forced to "Kill Off" His Family.

Necessity has sharpened the wits of the Russians and they discover most ingenious devices to profit at the expense of the government.

A shrewd physician in Petrograd, who was a bachelor with a hearty appetite and a small income, induced the president of the house committee where he resided to give him a certificate saying he was married. In this way he procured a double ration. Soon his imaginary wife fell ill and he got a milk card on the strength of it. Later a baby came to bless this fictitious union, and he was entitled to additional delicacies as a result. Unfortunately, he got his dates mixed up and announced the arrival of three children inside of six months.

An investigation was started, upon which an epidemic broke out in his family, which carried away, inside of two days, his wife, two daughters and little boy.

It was a dreadful massacre on paper. But it saved the physician, who got off undetected.—J. Kessel in Le Figaro, Paris.

Story of a Famous Old Timer.

An esteemed correspondent recalls two little stories of that eminent Ohioan, Gov. David Tod, who, among his other official distinctions, numbered that of minister to Brazil, appointed by President Polk and holding the office five years.

When it was noised about among the future governor's old friends and acquaintances that he had been made minister to Brazil, one of them drawled: "Wal, all I got to say is that Dave'll make a shed of a minister!"

When Minister Tod officially interviewed Don Pedro II in Rio Janeiro, he said to his interpreter: "Tell the emperor that if he will hurry up the carrying out of that request I made him I'll send him a car load of the best Brier Hill coal my people can mine."

As coal wasn't used in Rio, the interpreter collapsed.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

What Next?

Paris beauty doctors are now specializing in the reforming of women's legs. Two specialists in Rue de la Paix are winning fame by reducing the size of women's ankles and increasing the size of the calf. They have not, as yet, found a way to take the curve out of bowlegs, and some of the prettiest of society, there are hoping almost tearfully that something will develop in this direction.

Shoot Cable Over River.

Telephone and press communication with Portland and points as far north as Montana, cut off recently by the overflowing of the Santiam river, in central Oregon, was restored by shooting across the river a weight to which was attached a light wire.

A projectile gun was used, according to the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company. After ten attempts the wire was hauled across a 400-foot gap and an emergency cable pulled across.

Too Much Cut Out.

"Your show can play in Plunkville if you cut out the objectionable features." "Won't pay me." "Nonsense. You can continue to charge \$2 per seat." "Not for a ten-minute show."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Radium in Brazil.

A rich find of radium has been reported in the state of Minas Geraes in Brazil according to a traveler who has just returned from South America. The radium is in the form of uranium oxide.

FIRST ON AMERICAN STAGE

"Beggars' Opera" Caused Some Controversy When It Was Produced at New York in 1751.

The first musical play presented upon the American stage was "The Beggars' Opera," by John Gay, which was produced at the Nassau Street theater in New York 171 years ago. A considerable proportion of the 10,000 people then comprising the population of New York attended the performance, although there were not a few who protested against the "godless affair" and threatened to "have the law on it."

The Murray & Kean company, a band of comedians who went to New York from Philadelphia, was responsible for the production. It was a benefit performance for Thomas Kean, who personally called on the leading citizens and sold tickets. The performance began at 6 o'clock and was over at 8:45. A harlequin dance, a pierrot dance and "The Drunken Peasant" were presented as "entertainments between the acts."

"The Beggars' Opera" was long popular, and some of its lines are still quoted, among them: "How happy could I be with either, were I but dear Charmer away!"—Chicago Journal.

Victoria Bridge.

The Victoria Jubilee bridge across the St. Lawrence at Montreal was originally known as the Victoria tubular bridge, and was named the "Victoria" after Queen Victoria. It was formally opened by King Edward VII. (then prince of Wales), in 1901. But when the tubular bridge was replaced by a cantilever bridge, built in 1897 and 1898, on the piers of the old bridge, it was given the official name of the Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee in 1897. It is still popularly known, however, as the Victoria bridge.

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